

City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

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TO: COUNCILMEMBERS

FROM: Irvin Corley, Jr., Director *dcj*
Anne Marie Langan, Deputy Director *aml*

DATE: September 30, 2009

RE: Budget Information Relative to CB Patrol Reimbursement

Councilmember Jones asked at last week's Internal Operations committee meeting about the funding availability for cb patrol reimbursement. She had been told that the funds were spent for the year.

Our office contacted the Director of Neighborhood City Halls, Stephanie Young, to inquire about the funds availability for CB Patrol reimbursement, where it has been budgeted since July 2006. Prior to that this program was managed through the office of the City Clerk.

There is a budgeted appropriation for this program of \$300,000. Ms. Young agrees that all the funds have not been spent. In fact, due to some negative charges, which should be corrected by the department, the available funds currently total \$323,584. Ms. Young will be investigating this problem.

In our conversation, Ms. Young stated that no current active cb patrols have been told that funds are no longer available for reimbursement and in fact that those groups are still eligible for reimbursement at this point. What has occurred is that a number of potentially new patrols have indicated that they want to start patrolling and would like to apply for reimbursement.

Ms. Young is concerned, though, that in light of the city's current \$300 Million deficit, that more groups should not be added at this time. In fact, Neighborhood City Halls has placed a moratorium on the reimbursements for new patrols. The department also plans to conduct an internal audit of existing patrols to ensure the funds are being used appropriately.

Ms. Young reports that she has spoken to at least one potential new patrol group who understands the current financial challenges and yet they are still interested in forming a group, without being reimbursed.

Below is a chart that shows the budget and actual expenses for the last three years:

| | Budget | Actual |
|-----------|-----------|-----------------|
| 2006-2007 | \$250,000 | \$248,668 |
| 2007-2008 | \$300,000 | \$278,193 |
| 2008-2009 | \$300,000 | \$296,975 |
| 2009-2010 | \$300,000 | \$(57,873) -YTD |

Our office would suggest that the Mayor's Office/Neighborhood City Halls report back to the Council in one month and provide an update on the following:

1. Is the Mayor recommending that all cb patrol funding be cut?
2. Have there been any discussions with the Police Chief to determine the value of these cb patrols when coordinated with the police deployments?
3. Will the Auditor General be contacted to perform an audit? If not, why not?
4. Are there currently limits on the amount a cb patrol can be reimbursed annually? Is there any thought to creating a policy like that so there would be sufficient funds for all interested neighborhoods?
5. Please provide information that potential cb patrols have been given and explain what groups must provide to be reimbursed.
6. Why was the amount budgeted for reimbursement increased by \$50,000 in the 2007-2008 fiscal year?
7. Please explain the credits, or negative expenses that have been applied to this account since the beginning of the fiscal year.

Let us know if additional information is needed.

cc: Council Divisions
Auditor General
Norman White, Finance Director
Stephanie Young, Neighborhood City Halls Director
Kamau Marable, Mayor's Office